## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /037 W

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R 081347Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8221

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUWAIT 3156

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: BEXP

SUBJECT: FORD MOTOR COMPANY IN KUWAIT

REF: DOHA 622

- 1 . FORD MOTOR COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN THROUGH KUWAIT ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS, THE TIMING OF THEIR LAST VISIT BEING THE 25TH OF MAY.
- 2. ALTHOUGH THE FORMER FORD DEALER, KUWAIT AUTOMBILE IMPORTS CO., IS EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN REGAINING THE AGENCY IN KUWAIT, PERRYMAN HAS BEEN RATHER CHARY ABOUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACKNOWLEDGING ANY INTENTION TO GRANT THEM THE AGENCY FOR ONE OR ALL THREE FORD MOTOR LINES. IDEALLY, IT WOULD LIKE TO SPLIT THE DEALERSHIP INTO THREE DIFFERENT AND COMPETING AGENCIES, PASSENGER CARS, LINCOLN-MERCURY, AND COMMERCIAL VEHICLES. IN PURSUIT OF THIS END, HE HAS TALKED WITH ALI AND FUAD AL-GHANIM (WTD 11/75), RE LINCOLN MERCURY OR THE FORD LINE, AND

APPROACHED MOHAMMED A. KHARAFI (WTD 11/75) REGARDING COMMERCIAL VEHICLES. HIS PRIMARY CONCERN THROUGHOUT THESE "EVAALUATIVE" SESSIONS HAS BEEN TO AVOID ANTAGONIZING THE AL-SHAYA AND AL-SAGAR FAMILIES WHO OWN KUWAIT AUTOMOBILE IMPORTS CO. JOINTLY. HOWEVER, SIMILAR TO SITUATION IN DOHA, HIS PRESSURE POINT IS THEIR PRESENT HANDLING OF PUEGEOT AND MAZDA.

- 3. AS TO BASIC AGENCY COSTS FOR KUWAIT, PERRYMAN HAS BEEN SUING A MINIMUM FIGURE OF \$6 MILLION, WHICH INCLUDED BOTH WORKING CAPITAL AND FIXED COSTS.
- 4. COMMENT: FORD REPS ARE OBVIOUSLY DOING A LOT OF HOME-WORK AND PUTTING IN CONSIDERABLE EFFORT IN PREPARATION FOR THE DAY WHEN FORD CAN DO BUSINESS IN THIS AREA. HOWEVER, BEING OFF THE BOYCOTT LIST AS FAR AS EGYPT IS CONCERNED IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE MUCH OF AN EFFECT ON KUWAIT UNLESS THE CENTRAL BOYCOTT OFFICE FOLLOWS EGYPT'S LEAD. SUTHERLAND

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## Message Attributes

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